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Aysgarth,  
Yorkshire.

TO THE AYSGARTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report  
for the year 1943.

#### Vital Statistics.

Births	{		Total	M	F	}	Birth Rate 17.52
		Legitimate	52	24	28		
		Illegitimate	12	4	8		

There was one stillbirth, the child being legitimate.

Deaths	55	29	26	Death Rate 15.05
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Number of women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth.	from Sepsis	Nil
	from other causes	Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1000 births:-  
Legitimate, 15.62: Illegitimate, 15.52: Total infant mortality 15.62

Deaths from Measles	(All ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough	(All ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		Nil

#### Infectious Disease.

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1943.

Diseases	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Enteric	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	7	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	3	3	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	3	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	2	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil	Nil
Measles	159	Nil	Nil

#### Tuberculosis.

Two notifications of the above have been received during the year.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Up to 31st December 1943, 92.71% of school children, and 78.71% of pre-school children have been immunised.

Herewith I append the Report of the Council's Sanitary Inspector.

I beg to remain,  
Your obedient Servant,

W.N.PICKLES,

Medical Officer of Health.



Dr.W.N.Pickles,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
Aysgarth.

Dear Dr. Pickles,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report for the year ended 31st December, 1943.

1. Water Supply:

Visits to the various sources of domestic water supply under the direct control of the Council have been made during the year and I have to report that there has been no serious shortage of water in any part of the area over a prolonged period. Several complaints regarding shortage came to hand and these received immediate attention.

The Council have not carried out any work of major importance with regard to any of the supplies under their jurisdiction during the period, but the military authorities have installed additional storage accommodation to the extent of 15,000 gallons to the Hawes supply and provided separate supplies for their own use at Simonstone and Bainbridge; these may later be adopted to the Council's own use.

Several samples of water from the Council's various supplies have been submitted for bacteriological examination and, as a whole, the results of these analyses do not show a good standard of purity owing chiefly to surface pollution. This matter has been brought to the notice of the Council and recently a Committee has been set up to consider the question of the water supplies throughout the whole of the area and it is hoped some assistance will be obtainable through the legislation now before Parliament, as ample supplies are available in most parts of the district if they were properly stored and treated.

New connections to the mains were made in Hawes and Askrigg during the year and several farms in the district have augmented their private supplies or requested permission for additional facilities where the Council's mains are available.

2. Sewage Disposal and Drainage:

No alterations or extensions have been carried out to any of the various sewerage schemes in the area but the Council are aware that some modifications will have to be made in the near future as most of the schemes are now overloaded and require serious attention and those villages without a proper sewerage system at the moment will have to be given consideration in the immediate post-war years.

To this end, the Council discussed a plan of campaign to be put into operation during the first five years following the cessation of hostilities or immediately labour and materials are available but some financial assistance will be necessary to carry out the whole of this work.

3. Refuse Collection and Disposal:

Only the village of Bainbridge and a few houses in the parish of Low Abbotside have a regular collection of household refuse, this work being carried out by the same contractor. Efforts were made during the year, to provide this service in the village of Askrigg but the idea has had to be put on one side for the time being as I have not been able to contact anyone willing to undertake this work. The refuse throughout the district is disposed of by means of controlled tipping, attendance being provided at the tips in a number of parishes.



#### 4. Salvage:

Salvage is collected in the various villages in the District under the Council's scheme and during the year the difficulty of transport for the removal of waste paper has been largely overcome, thanks to the co-operation of the haulage contractor. The collection of tins, etc. was discontinued at the end of the year on the recommendation of the Ministry as the Council do not possess the plant necessary to bale the loose metal.

During the latter part of August and the beginning of September, a Book Recovery Drive was held throughout the North Riding and the thanks of the Council were rightly expressed to the school children and staffs of schools in the district who helped to make the Drive such a success. In all, 24,111 Books were collected, almost solely by the children in the district, and the area showed the highest figures per head of the population throughout the County.

Approximately 22 tons of waste paper, 19 cwt of bones and 12 tons 3 cwts. of tins and scrap metal have been disposed of by the Council during the year and 11 loads of tins, weighing in the region of 22 tons were removed by the Military Authorities in addition. These figures compare very favourably with previous years and taking into account the reduced quantity of paper now available to householders, one cannot expect much more to be put out for salvage.

#### 5. Food and Drugs Act:

##### (a) Milk and Dairies:

During the year 209 farm premises have been visited and in several instances, improvements and alterations to premises producing milk have been effected although great difficulty is experienced in obtaining the necessary labour to carry out extensive schemes at the present time. Quite a number of farms producing milk for the wholesale market still require alterations before they can be made to comply with the requirements of the Orders, especially those premises previously used for the rearing of stock, and one would welcome some definite statement as to the ultimate end to which these farms are to be used, either by the Government or the War Agricultural Executive Committee, before requesting extensive additions or alterations.

A number of visits were made to premises following reports from the War Agricultural Executive Committee that the milk had failed to pass the Resazurin Test and in most cases it was found that the milk was sent uncooled to the dairies as sufficient water for proper cooling was not available.

##### (b) Meat and Food Inspection:

Nine licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 were issued by the Council to persons in the area during the year.

The whole of the meat supplied to traders in the district is slaughtered at the Ministry of Food's Central Slaughter-house in Leyburn and the Council's Sanitary Inspector acts in conjunction with the Inspector to the Leyburn Rural District Council in the inspection of animals slaughtered there. Little complaint can be recorded with regard to either the quality or quantity of meat available in the district.

Periodical visits are being made to all food shops etc. in the district and the co-operation of the shopkeepers and tradesmen concerned with regard to the examination of sound and suspected foodstuffs is greatly appreciated.

#### 6. Housing and Public Health Acts:

Minor repairs to property only have been carried out by contractors in the district during the past twelve months owing to the lack of labour and difficulty in obtaining the necessary materials. The situation with regard to materials. The situation with regard to materials is now being eased by the issue of permits but the labour question still continues to be very difficult. Few complaints with regard to the condition of houses have been received, but where defects have been found, owners have had the necessary repairs carried out as early as possible.

Before leaving this part of the report, mention should be made of the clearance caused by the removal of the wooden bungalows, known locally as the 'Dale Huts'. The disposal of these premises has, without doubt, been a great benefit to the district and has rid the area of an undesirable type of dwelling.

#### 7. Overcrowding:

(a)	No. of dwelling-houses overcrowded at beginning	
	of year -- -- -- --	5
(b)	No. of families dwelling therein -- -- -- --	5
(c)	No. of persons dwelling therein -- -- -- --	35
(d)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported	
	during year -- -- -- --	2
(e)	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	2
(f)	No. of families concerned in such cases -- -- -- --	5
(g)	No. of persons concerned in such cases -- -- -- --	15

#### 8. Petroleum Spirit:

Three licences are in force under this legislation in the district and regular visits have been made to the premises concerned.

May I again take the opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council, the members of the staff and yourself in particular for the assistance and the co-operation which I have been given during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. WARBURTON,

Sanitary Inspector and  
Surveyor.